

Ref. Docket No. PG-042198

September 20, 2005

Michael Faulkenberry, P.E.
Chief Gas Engineer
Avista Utilities Corporation
East 1411 Mission
Spokane, Washington 99220

Dear Mr. Faulkenberry:

Subject: 2005 Standard Natural Gas Inspections-Spokane/Ritzville

Between August 22 and September 16, 2005, Commission pipeline safety staff (Staff) conducted a pipeline safety inspection of Avista facilities and operations in Spokane and Ritzville. No apparent violations were noted as a result of the inspection.

Staff would like to note the continued improvement of Avista's compliance program. Avista met or exceeded all of the requirements of state and federal pipeline safety regulations that were reviewed and this is a direct result of Avista's increased commitment to pipeline safety. Staff would also like to thank Avista's personnel for their professionalism in working with Commission Staff during the inspection process.

If you have any questions or if Staff may be of any assistance, please contact Scott Rukke at (360) 664-1241.

Avista Utilities Corporation-Spokane/Ritzville
Docket PG-042198
September 20, 2005
Page 2

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Alan E. Rathbun
Pipeline Safety Director

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) has the authority to enforce minimum safety regulations per Chapter 480-93 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) pertaining to the construction, maintenance and operation of pipelines transporting natural gas in the state of Washington. In addition, the Commission adopts the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 49, Part 191 and 192.